

Joshua 13:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants: for these did Moses smite, and cast them out.

Analysis

All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants—Og was the last of the **Rephaim** (רִפְאִים, Repha'im), a race of giant warriors whose bed measured thirteen feet long (Deuteronomy 3:11). His defeat under Moses demonstrated God's power over seemingly invincible foes. **Ashtaroth** (עֲשְׁתָּרוֹת, Ashtarot) was named after the Canaanite fertility goddess, revealing the region's spiritual darkness.

The phrase **for these did Moses smite** (וַיַּכֶּם מֹשֶׁה, vayakem Moshe) emphasizes completed conquest. Yet verse 13 immediately reveals Israel's failure to fully dispossess these territories. Og's defeat prefigures Christ's victory over spiritual giants—principalities and powers (Colossians 2:15). What Moses began through physical conquest, Christ completed through spiritual triumph, crushing the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15) and destroying death itself (1 Corinthians 15:26).

Historical Context

Og's kingdom in Bashan was renowned for its fortified cities and agricultural wealth. The defeat of the Rephaim—legendary warriors who terrorized the region—became a defining moment in Israel's history, frequently recalled as evidence of God's power (Deuteronomy 3:1-11, Psalm 135:10-11, 136:17-20). Bashan's oak forests and pastures made it prime territory (Ezekiel 27:6, Amos 4:1), explaining why Manasseh's half-tribe desired it.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' defeat of the seemingly invincible Og encourage faith when facing overwhelming obstacles?
2. What does the association of Og's cities with pagan deities teach about the spiritual warfare underlying physical conquest?
3. In what ways does Christ's victory over spiritual 'giants' (sin, death, Satan) fulfill and exceed the typological conquest of the Rephaim?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	מַמְלָכָה וְ	עוֹג	בְּבֶשֶׁת	אֲשֶׁר	מֶלֶךְ	בְּעֶשְׂתָּר וְ
H3605	All the kingdom	of Og	in Bashan	H834	which reigned	in Ashtaroth
	H4468	H5747	H1316		H4427	H6252
וּבְאֵדְרֵי	הָ וְ	נִשְׁאַר	מִי־תֵר	הַגִּזְרֵי	וְ	
and in Edrei	H1931	who remained	of the remnant	of the giants	smite	
H154		H7604	H3499	H7497	H5221	
מִשֵּׁה	וַיִּזְרְקוּ:					
for these did Moses	and cast them out					
H4872	H3423					

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 12:4 (Kingdom): And the coast of Og king of Bashan, which was of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,